

TRAINING A RUNNER.

Feeding, Clothing and Exercising a Young Thoroughbred.

A BIG LOTTERY IN HORSE FLESH.

The Dwyers' Unfortunate Experience With Yearlings.

WHAT IT COSTS TO RUN A GREAT STABLE.

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.)

ORSE racing and everything about it is a lottery, especially yearlings," remarked Phil Dwyer, as he poked his light case at the protruding nose of Inspector B, who was peering inquisitively from his box stall at Dwyer Brothers' racing stables at Gravesend.

Yearlings and stablemen were busy running in and about the great angle, and the watchful eye of the head trainer, Frank McCabe, was everywhere. It takes a cool, level-headed man to have charge of \$70,000 worth of horse-flesh. Scores of birds sat twittering on the long, low roof of the stables, and a colony of fowls strutted about, undisturbed by the neighing and pawing of the satiny skinned racers and the ubiquitous jockeys, who, loaded down with harness and brushes, were getting ready for the racing hour when the Dwyer cracks would take the field.

It is a great establishment, that of the Dwyers. Hanging on the right the Conneland, Jockey Club's track, the bend of which impinges upon the eastern boundary, covering about a couple of acres and with stalls for 100 or more horses, is the main ideal of what a racing stable should be—the quietness of cleanliness, roomy and free from needless decoration, yet supplied with everything necessary for the care of the stock. The stable itself is in the form of an L, with a large number of stalls in both wings. Almost every stall contained a racer more or less known to the patrons of the track, and there were other coats were no longer glossy and whose eyes and general gait bespoke the horse out of training.

PRIZES AND BLANKS.

"We have some eight or nine here that

offered to him cheap for any other reason. "Well, he brushed her up, trained her a bit, and then entered her for a race. To his intense surprise, and I need hardly say to that of everybody else, she won. "But the story short," said Mr. Dwyer, "the horse is a good one, and she is a good one. She has won every race or got a place in every race for which she has been entered in the last few months, and I hear that her owner refused \$25,000 for her, as she was considerably more than that amount out of her and expected to do still better."

"Now, I think this shows that one can never tell what a 2-year-old may do, let alone a yearling. Undoubtedly Reclaire had been tried before being sold and had disappointed his first owners. I have bought yearlings at from \$500 to \$800 apiece and have got nothing out of them. It is the same way with 2-year-olds. We started out with 37 2-year-olds, at an average cost of \$2,200 a head and got not a good one in the lot. A few experiences of that sort would convince any man that it takes money to run a stable, and that it's a lottery after all. You do the best you can and yet you never know how you are coming out in the long run."

TRAINING YEARLINGS.

The Dwyers will sell off a large number of their 2-year-olds at a time in November, but the trained yearlings will not be put under the hammer. One promising yearling is Blackburn, a fine-looking, likely colt, by

the famous Luke Blackburn, out of Tallapoosa. The horses both at Gravesend and Monmouth Park are under the care of Trainer McCabe and his assistant, Hardy Campbell.

"The education of yearlings is an interesting study," said one of the best trainers in the country. "The colt is weaned at five or six months, housed for a while and then turned out to the hayfield or meadow. He is liberally fed with oats and bran, and if he is to be a racing colt he is stabled, handled

A Lesson in Running.

and dressed daily, introduced to the halter, led about, and even tied up. Great care is taken to develop a good temper, docility, and he is never harshly treated. He is bitted, but softly, so as not to hurt his mouth; his bedding is looked after scrupulously, and his feet are kept clean and healthy by frequent washings. When first yearling is fed he is not to be fed, but to the point of gluttony. The colts are kept in one stable, the fillies in another, and all under a single trainer, who observes whether they are gluttons, moderately hearty feeders or delicate.

"The best riding boys and lightest weights in the stables are selected to take charge of the yearlings. When first taken out to exercise they are clothed and saddled, and sometimes the bridle and hood are put on. Each boy mounts, and the youngsters are led into the stable yard and walked about till they get used to the sensation of the saddle. Then they are taken out a little way to the nearest fields or down. At the first trial some will bolt or swerve, others will rear and spring, as though frightened, and others will lash out behind viciously. But they must not be beaten. When the boy cannot control the colt or filly, the trainer takes a hand and a sudden strong pull will generally stop the antics and bring the yearling to terms. If that isn't sufficient, the groom will mount, check up the animal's head and thump both heels against its sides.

"A good way in training yearlings is to have a steady hack travel alongside when the little horse is trotting or galloping about in a field, or across the fields. He should always be exercised in company if possible, otherwise he gets shy when in a crowd with other horses. Occasionally the boy should run along and gallop him a bit, leading him by a halter. You see, the chief object the first year is to develop strength, form and good habits. The serious training begins when he is classed as a 2-year-old."

TESTING THE YOUNGSTERS.

"Trying yearlings to test their quality and promise is a very different thing from trying trained thoroughbreds that are going into a race. But suppose the colt has passed through the novitiate and is to be a yearling with other yearlings and you want to make a test of his racing qualities. You get the youngsters together on the trial ground; gallop them a little and get them in spirits; pull them up, walk them a bit in line and the starting point is reached, and then away! After they are well off there should be a trial. The yearling should be held well in hand, especially at the turn, and kept together; but no youngster should be struck if he shows signs of getting tired. Rather pull him up and ease him a little, but don't let him get too tired. You see, the chief object the first year is to develop strength, form and good habits. The serious training begins when he is classed as a 2-year-old."

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EVERY DAY SCIENCE.

A Scientific Theory About the Formation of Petroleum.

VAST UNWORKED OIL FIELDS.

Revival of Our Shipbuilding and Shipping Industries.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL NOTES

(PREPARED FOR THE DISPATCH.)

Readers of THE DISPATCH who desire information on subjects relating to industrial development and progress in mechanical, electrical, and chemical engineering and the sciences can have their queries answered through this column.

In a pamphlet lately published, C. Marvin draws attention to the vast fields of petroleum that at present, owing to the sparseness of the authorities, remain unworked. In Burmah, which has not long been under the control of the English Government, great fields are known to exist, but instead of working them and exporting the oil, the people in that country actually import from Russia the quantity they need for their own consumption. In Canada, too, says Mr. Marvin, a similar state of things prevails.

The theory of the process of the formation of petroleum is a most interesting one. It is generally admitted that the crust of the earth is very thin in comparison with the mass of the globe, and that this crust incloses soft or fluid substances, among which the carbides of iron and other metals find a place. When, in consequence of cooling, or some other cause, a fissure takes place through which a mountain range is formed, the heat of the interior is able to make their way into the bowels of the earth, and to reach occasionally the heated deposits of metallic carbides, which may exist either in a separated condition or blended with other matter. Under such circumstances it is easy to see what must take place. Iron, or whatever other metal may be present, forms an oxide with the carbides of the water, hydrogen is either set free or combined with the carbon which was associated with the metal, and becomes a volatile substance—that is, a gas. The water which had penetrated down to the inclosed mass was changed into steam, a portion of which found its way through the porous substances with which the fissures were filled, and carried with it the carbides of iron and other metals, and this mixture of vapors was condensed wholly or in part as it reached the cooler strata. The chemical composition of the hydrocarbons produced will depend upon the nature of the metal and temperature under which they are formed. It is obvious that these may vary within wide limits, hence it is that the carbides of iron and other metals, and similar products differ so greatly from each other in their relative proportions of hydrogen and carbon. Artificial petroleum has been frequently prepared by a process analogous to that just described.

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